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NORTHUMBERLAND.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1938.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE:
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1939.

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Medical Officer of Health

(W. H. DICKINSON, M.D., M.R.C.P.Edin., D.P.H.)

FOR THE

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Gosforth Urban District Council.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1938.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year 1938 on the work of the Health Department.

The area of the District is	1,739 acres.
Population, Census 1921	15,790
Population, Census 1931	18,040
Estimated mid-year population 1938	20,270
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1938	6,104
Rateable Value	£190,670
Sum represented by a penny rate	£766

The area is almost entirely residential in character and has no industries which have any special influence on public health.

The following is an extract from the Vital Statistics for the year :—

		TOTAL.	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	277	145	132	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the resident population, 13·6.
	Illegitimate	5	3	2	
Still Births		18	6	12	Rate per 1,000 total births, 76·29.

	Total	M.	F.	
Deaths	224	104	120	Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population, 11·04.

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and Childbirth :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
From Sepsis	0	Nil.
From Other Causes	1	3·6

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	32·4
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	29·4
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	200·0
Deaths from Measles—all ages	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough—all ages	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea—under 2 years of age	1

A further decrease is recorded in the death rate of infants under one year of age, namely 32·4 as against 42·9 per thousand in the year 1937.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Table I. shows the Vital Statistics of the District as compared with those of England and Wales, London and 126 County Boroughs and 148 Smaller Towns.

TABLE I.

TABLE OF COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS, 1938.

	Rate per 1,000 Total Population		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population.									Rate per 1,000 Live Births.	
	Live Births.	Still Births.	All Causes	Typhoid and Para-Typhoid Fevers	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under 2 yrs.)	Total deaths under 1 yr.
England and Wales ...	15.1	0.60	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.11	0.54	5.5	53
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	16.0	0.65	11.7	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.10	0.45	7.8	57
148 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	15.4	0.60	11.0	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.06	0.11	0.42	3.6	51
London	13.4	0.48	11.4	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.06	0.51	13.1	57
Gosforth	13.6	0.88	11.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.09	0.19	0.38	3.6	32

Table II. gives a comparison of the Vital Statistics of the District for the past 10 years.

TABLE II.

Year.	Population Estimated to middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered of Persons belonging to District.			
				Under 1 Year.		At All Ages.	
		Number.	Rate per 1,000 Pop'tion.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Pop'tion.
1929	19,000	208	10.9	14	67.3	185	9 7
1930	19,000	187	9.8	6	32.0	157	8 2
1931	18,220	192	10.6	15	78.08	199	11.0
1932	18,220	231	12.6	12	51.9	175	9.6
1933	18,290	216	11.8	6	27.7	188	10.27
1934	18,390	210	11.4	10	47.6	175	9.51
1935	19,000	217	11.4	16	73.5	187	9.8
1936	19,330	247	12.7	19	76.9	206	10 6
1937	19,840	256	12.9	11	42.9	227	11.4
1938	20,270	277	13.6	9	32.4	224	11.04

Deaths.

Table III. shews the causes of death of residents belonging to the District as registered during 1938. The table is corrected for outward and inward transfers.

TABLE III.

Causes of Death in Gosforth Urban District during the Year 1938.

	Causes of Death.	M.	F.	Total.
	All Causes	104	120	224
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
2.	Measles	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	—	1	1
5.	Diphtheria	1	1	2
6.	Influenza	2	2	4
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
9.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	4	2	6
10.	Other Tuberculous diseases	6	2	8
11.	Syphilis	—	1	1
12.	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	—	—	—
13.	Cancer, Malignant disease	18	18	36
14.	Diabetes	2	6	8
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	6	6	12
16.	Heart disease	24	29	53
17.	Aneurysm	2	—	2
18.	Other circulatory diseases	8	12	20
19.	Bronchitis	2	1	3
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	4	3	7
21.	Other respiratory diseases	—	1	1
22.	Peptic Ulcer	—	—	1
23.	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	—	1	1
24.	Appendicitis	1	1	2
25.	Cirrhosis of the liver	1	—	1
26.	Other diseases of the liver, etc.	—	—	—
27.	Other digestive diseases	1	5	6
28.	Acute and chronic nephritis	3	3	6
29.	Puerperal sepsis	—	—	—
30.	Other puerperal causes	—	1	1
31.	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	4	1	5
32.	Senility	—	8	8
33.	Suicide	—	—	—
34.	Other violence	4	4	8
35.	Other defined diseases	8	9	17
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	3	1	4

The following statement shews the ages at death :—

At all ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards
224	9	2	3	5	4	10	64	127

Births.

During the year 277 births have been registered giving an Annual Rate of 13.6 as compared with 12.9 for the year 1937.

Infant Mortality.

The total of 9 infant deaths gives an infant mortality rate of 32.4 per 1,000, as compared with 42.9 for the year 1937.

The ages at death were as follows :—

Under 1 month.	1—3 months.	3—6 months.	6—9 months.	9—12 months.
6	0	2	0	1

Causes of Death.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks.	2—4 weeks.	Total under 4 wks.	1—3 mths.	3—6 mths.	6—12 mths.	Total deaths under 1 year.
Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Enteritis	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature Birth	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
Convulsions	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Other Causes	2	—	—	2	—	1	—	3
Totals	2	4	—	6	—	2	1	9

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Staff of Health Department.

Medical Officer of Health	*W. H. Dickinson, M.D., M.R.C.P.Edin., D.P.H.
Medical Officer, of Health, Child Welfare	*H. Glen Davison, M.D.
Dental Surgeon, Child Welfare Centre	*A. M. Laing, L.D.S.
Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Workshops, Superintendent of the Collection and Disposal of House Refuse	Thos. B. Bennett, C.R.S.I.
Additional Sanitary Inspector	J. Liddle, C.R.S.I.
Health Visitors	M. Dickinson, Health Visitor's Diploma. E. M. Howarth, Health Visitor's Diploma.

* Employed part-time by this Authority.

Laboratory and Ambulance Facilities, Treatment Centres, Etc.

The information required in this section has been set out in previous reports the only important change being in connection with the facilities for the treatment of Venereal Diseases.

On August 30th, 1937, the Venereal Diseases Clinic was transferred to a new Clinic maintained by a Joint Committee of the County Councils of Durham and Northumberland and the County Borough Councils of Gateshead and Newcastle upon Tyne, in the grounds of the **Newcastle General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, 4.**

The Clinic is open every day including Sunday for treatment (both sexes) and every weekday for consultations.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

This Section is dealt with under the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Housing.

This Section is dealt with in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Inspection and Supervision of Foods.

This Section is dealt with in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases.

(a) *Diphtheria Immunisation.*—In addition to immunisation carried out at the Infant Welfare Centre, the scheme brought into force in the autumn of 1936 under which the immunisation of children up to the age at which they leave school is undertaken by their own family medical practitioner, the cost being borne by the Council, has been revised, and is still in fairly active operation.

Under this scheme, during the year 1938, 145 children were immunised. Taking into account the children immunised under the Welfare Centre Scheme, the total number of children dealt with during the year was 162.

(b) *Notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis).*—Table IV. shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year.

TABLE IV.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1938.

Number of Cases Notified—At All Ages—Years.

Notifiable Diseases.	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1—2 years.	2—3 years.	3—4 years.	4—5 years.	5—10 years.	10—15 years.	15—20 years.	20—35 years.	35—45 years.	45—65 years & on.	R'moved to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	87	0	0	4	7	2	35	19	8	6	4	2	78	0
Diphtheria	27	1	0	1	0	0	7	5	5	6	0	2	24	2
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia .... (all forms)	27	0	1	0	0	0	3	3	2	2	1	15	0	7
Erysipelas	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	7	0	0
Chickenpox	42	0	4	3	1	3	25	4	1	1	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis L	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmia N	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	3	0	0
Para Typhoid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	209	2	5	8	8	5	70	31	16	25	10	29	104	9

(c) *Ophthalmia Neonatorum.* There was one case notified during the year.

(d) *Tuberculosis.* 25 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year, 16 being pulmonary and 9 non-pulmonary.

The following Table shows the age distribution of the new cases and also that of the deaths of persons certified to be due to Tuberculosis :—

TABLE V.
TUBERCULOSIS.
New cases and Mortality during the Year 1938.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 years				1				1
1 ,, ...								
5 ,, ...								
10 ,, ...	1	1					1	
15 ,, ...			2	4				
20 ,, ...		1					1	2
25 ,, ...		4	1					
35 ,, ...	1							
45 ,, ...	2	2			2			
55 ,, ...	3	1		1	2		1	
65 and upwards					1		1	2
Totals	7	9	3	6	5		4	5

There were 6 non-notified deaths.

At the close of the year there were according to the records of the Department, 59 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 25 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis resident in the district (four being transfers from adjoining districts). The names of 13 patients have been removed from the register owing to their having left the district, recovered or died.

(e) *Bacteriological Examinations.* Facilities for laboratory diagnosis are provided by the Northumberland County Council.

The following specimens have been submitted for examination during the year :—

	Total.	Positive.	Negative.
Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci	13	4	9
Sera for Agglutination	2	1	1
Faeces for Dysentery	3	1	2
Pus for Tuberculosis	7	1	6
Bone for Tuberculosis	1	0	1
Sputum for Tuberculosis	53	6	47
Swabs for B. Diphtheriae	262	37	225
	341	50	291
Milk Samples	44		
Total	385		

(f) *Disinfection.* During the year the following work of disinfection has been carried out :—

Visits for the purpose of enquiry and disinfection	480
Number of times bedding, etc., has been removed for steam disinfection	123

(g) *Pneumonia.* There were no patients removed to the Newcastle General Hospital during the year, for treatment under the Council's scheme for the treatment of cases of Pneumonia.

Women's Welfare Clinic (Birth Control).

The scheme brought into force in March, 1937, whereby the Council are prepared to pay a fee not exceeding 10s. 6d. to the Women's Welfare Clinic (Birth Control), 24, Shieldfield Green, Newcastle-on-Tyne, in respect of each married woman in necessitous circumstances who applied for Birth Control facilities, and in whose case it is certified by a medical practitioner that further pregnancies would be detrimental to health.

All applications for assistance are referred by the patient's medical practitioner, to me at this office.

During the year 7 patients were recommended for treatment, but only 6 attended the clinic.

The expenditure for the year was £3. 3s. 0d.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.

1. Inspection of Factories and Workplaces (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector).

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power	22	5	0
Factories without mechanical power	21	5	0
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	1	0	0
TOTAL	44	10	0

2. Defects found.

PARTICULARS.	NUMBER OF DEFECTS.			Number of offences in respect of which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	5	4	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) (Insufficient)	3	2	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) (Unsuitable or defective)	4	3	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) (Not separate for sexes)	—	—	—	—
Other Offences :— (Not including offences relating to Home work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)	5	3	—	—
TOTAL	17	12	—	—

Number of Factories and Workplaces on the Register and Occupations carried on therein :—

Bakers and Confectioners	10
Builders and Joiners and Cabinet Makers	9
Monumental Works	2
Welders and Smiths	2
Garages	9
Electricians and Plumbers	6
Dressmakers	3
Coal Depots	2
Laundries	2
Biscuit Packers	2
	47

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Notification of Births Act.

Notified By.	Live Births.	Still Births.	Total.
Doctors and Parents	9	0	9
Midwives	140	12	152
Nursing Homes and Maternity Hospitals	104	4	108
Totals	253	16	269

Figures adjusted for inward and outward transfers.

The following visits were paid by the Health Visitors during the year :—

First visits *re* births	196
First visits *re* still births	11
First visits to children removed to Gosforth ..	21
Re-visits to children	281
Visits to children under 5 years	547
First visits to expectant mothers	64
Re-visits to expectant mothers	124
Special visits	90
Total	1334
Number of simple dressings attended to	797
Number of interviews at Office	855
Milk, etc., sold at cost price..... .... £975 13s. 5d.	
Milk, etc., given free .... £119 5s. 10d.	

Infant Life Protection. (Children and Young Persons Act, 1932, Part 5).

The Health Visitor is the Inspector under this Act. Two children were registered during the year.

Child Welfare Centre and Ante-Natal Clinic.

The following statements give details of the work of the Child Welfare Centre and Ante-Natal Clinic during the year :—

CHILD WELFARE—1938.

Month.	Individual New Children		Total.	Total Attendances.		Total.	Medical Consultations.
	Under 1 year.	1-5 years.		Under 1 year.	1-5 years.		
January	31	9	40	244	114	358	104
February	20	2	22	418	161	579	122
March	22	3	25	427	160	587	145
April	16	5	21	470	143	613	172
May	18	4	22	426	139	565	145
June	25	2	27	398	127	525	107
July	34	2	36	558	194	752	173
August	21	3	24	489	165	654	187
September	28	4	32	479	160	639	94
October	16	7	23	454	152	606	150
November	25	2	27	437	150	587	137
December	17	2	19	371	116	487	82
Total	273	45	318	5171	1781	6952	1618

Separate individuals who attended 921

Average No. of Attendances per individual	7.56
Average attendance per week	144.83
Average attendance per session	48.27
Average No. of consultations per week	33.71
Average No. of consultations per session	16.85
No. of Child Welfare sessions during the year	143

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL SESSIONS, 1938.

Month.	Ante-Natal 1st Visits.	Post-Natal 1st Visits.	Total Attendances.
January	14	7	54
February	13	2	66
March	10	2	56
April	9	5	60
May	14	6	53
June	12	6	64
July	13	8	63
August	14	5	49
September	21	3	43
October	18	1	51
November	24	12	62
December	10	6	46
TOTAL	172	63	667

No. of Ante-Natal sessions during the year 84
Average attendance per session during the year 7.9

Under the Council's Scheme it is possible for a practitioner to obtain the services of a consulting obstetrician in any maternity case, whether ante-natal, or intra or post-natal. The arrangements also provide for the hospital accommodation of any such patients where the circumstances make it desirable or necessary.

Maternal Mortality.

There was one maternal death recorded during the year.

Ultra-Violet Ray Treatment.

	FROM CENTRE.	PRIVATE.	TOTAL.
Number of cases attending	42	4	46
Number of exposures given			590
Amount received			£1 9s. 0d.

Gosforth Welfare Children's Dental Clinic.

The Dental Clinic has now been in existence for seven years and continues to make satisfactory progress.

During the year there have been twenty-six sessions with an

average attendance of nine, including a number of Ante-Natal patients for urgent treatment and advice.

Twelve sessions have been devoted to cases requiring multiple extractions under a general anæsthetic and eighty-two children have had anæsthetics administered by Dr. Glen Davison.

A number of patients in need of immediate treatment for the relief of pain have been attended to at the Dentist's own surgery.

Immunisation Sessions.

No. of Sessions.	No. of Children.	No. of Injections.
1	17	17

Sewing Meeting.

The average attendance was 10.

General Remarks.

A survey of the material presented gives cause for a considerable degree of satisfaction.

There was a substantial increase in the number of births and a decrease in the number of deaths; the infant mortality rate showed a further decline and was only 60% of the rate for England and Wales.

56% of the deaths were of individuals aged 65 years and upwards.

Although there was an increase in the number of notifications received in respect of infectious diseases there was a welcome decrease in the number of deaths (9 in 1938, 12 in 1937); the death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis was reduced by more than half.

As usual pneumonia accounted for most of the deaths from the Notifiable Infectious Diseases apart from Tuberculosis; with the introduction of the new synthetic drugs it is hoped that still further reduction will be made.

Unfortunately 2 deaths occurred from diphtheria—neither of these children had been immunised. The response to the offer of free immunisation has been disappointing for there is no doubt

that immunisation is an agent of the greatest value in the reduction of the incidence of, and especially the mortality from, diphtheria.

There was a slight decrease in the work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Department but an increased volume of work is to be anticipated now that clerical assistance has been provided as the Health Visitors will now have more time to devote to their proper work both at the centre and in visiting mothers and children in their homes.

In conclusion I am pleased to avail myself of this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the service rendered by Mr. Bennett and the other officials of the Health Department and Dr. Glen Davison and Miss Dickinson at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre and thanking the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their support and encouragement.

Yours faithfully,

W. H. DICKINSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting particulars of the work of my Department for the year ending December 31st, 1938.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The whole of the District has a piped supply which is from the same source and comes through the same main pipes before reaching this area as that of the City of Newcastle upon Tyne. It is provided by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

No complaints have been received during the year as to the quality, and no tests have been made.

Drainage and Sewerage.

During the year ended 31st December 1938, 1,218 yards of Sewage Sewers were laid in the District as follows :—

Black Lane	439	lin. yds.	9″
Riddell Terrace Occupation Road	69	,, ,,	9″
Church Avenue	190	,, ,,	6″
Church Road	94	,, ,,	6″
West Street, back	113	,, ,,	6″
Hutton Street	72	,, ,,	6″
Fernwood Avenue	92	,, ,,	6″
Rosewood Avenue	149	,, ,,	6″
Total	1,218	,, ,,	

Rivers and Streams.

It was found necessary during the year to take action with reference to the discharge of unsatisfactory effluent from a sewage disposal plant in an adjoining area. The matter had not been satisfactorily dealt with at the end of the year.

Closet Accommodation.

There are in the District 6125 houses with water-closet accommodation. There are also 14 houses with combined privies and ashpits, and two with pail-closets. Five of the 14 houses with privies and ashpits are under Orders for Closure; the remainder and the pail-closets are on the outskirts of the district where there are no sewers available.

Collection and Disposal of House Refuse.

The quantity of house refuse collected in the District during the year under review was 8353 tons. Of this number 1161 tons were taken to the North Depot for incineration, 770 to farms, gardens, etc., and 6422 to Brunton Quarry Tip.

The whole of the District is scavenged by the Council's own men and motor wagons. Three hundred and seventy-nine visits of inspection and supervision have been made.

House refuse is collected from moveable dustbins, once, twice or three times per week, as the circumstances of the area require. Dry ashpits are emptied once every four weeks, combined privies and ashpits once every two or three weeks. The average amount of refuse collected per annum was 1.30 tons from each house and shop and 412 tons for each 1000 of the population.

During the year a combined hand screening and incinerator plant has been erected, capable of dealing with about 15 tons of refuse per day.

Inspections made.

The total number of sanitary and housing inspections which have been made during the year is 3,327. There were in addition 444 inspections of drains of new buildings, 480 visits for the

purpose of enquiry and disinfection after infectious diseases, 1,468 visits to ascertain if nuisances had been abated, or to supervise work in progress, and 21 visits with reference to the Rats and Mice Destruction Act.

Notices Given for the Abatement of Nuisances, etc.

During the year 1938, 678 notices, either Verbal or Informal, have been given. Many letters have also been sent out requesting the conversion of dry ashpits, etc. A detailed statement with reference to the inspections made and notices served will be found in Table 1.

Shops Act, 1934.

57 inspections were made to ascertain if the requirements of Section 10 of this Act were being carried out and 11 contraventions were found. In 9 instances the matters in default had been remedied at the end of the year and in the remaining 2, they were receiving attention.

Camping Sites.

There are no camping sites in this area.

Smoke Abatement.

Gosforth being mainly of a residential character, complaints of smoke nuisances are rare. Four instances occurred where it was found necessary to take action, three of which had been satisfactorily dealt with at the end of the year.

Swimming Baths or Pools.

There are no privately owned swimming baths or pools in this area.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Question.	Answer.
(1) The number of (a) Council houses, (b) other houses, (i) found to be infested, (ii) disinfested :	(1) Houses found to be infested : Council Houses ..... 0 Other houses ..... 12 Disinfested 12
(2) The methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs :	(2) Methods of Disinfestation : The liberal application of Zaldecide by means of a needle jet syringe to all places likely to harbour bed bugs.
(3) The methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses :	(3) The belongings of prospective tenants for Council houses are subjected to the same treatment as in No. 2 above, where they are suspected of harbouring bed bugs, before removal to Council houses.
(4) Whether the work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority or by a contractor :	(4) The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority with respect to the belongings of prospective tenants of Council houses, and by the occupiers, in other houses found to be infested.
(5) The measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing.	(5) Verbal instructions are given at the time of the first inspection to the occupiers of bug infested houses, as to the methods to be employed in disinfestation, and subsequent inspections are made to ascertain if these methods have been successful.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops.

There were on the Register at the end of the year the names of four cow-keepers, who are also retailers of milk. There are also 17 purveyors of milk whose premises are within the District, and 27 whose premises are outside the District.

The number of dairy cows kept in the area is about 115.

It was necessary to give 7 notices during the year to cowkeepers and purveyors of milk with respect to the condition of their premises and utensils and the contravention of the Milk and Dairies Act and Orders. One of the notices had not been complied with at the end of the year.

Forty-four samples of milk have been collected for examination and the results are as follows :—

Test Used.	Grade of Milk.	Samples Examined.	Found.	
			Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Coliform	Ungraded.	32	24	8
do.	Accredited.	10	10	0
do.	"T.T."	1	1	0
Methylene Blue Reduction	Ungraded.	32	22	10
do.	Accredited.	10	7	3
do.	"T.T."	1	1	0
Plate Count	Pasteurised.	1	1	0

Licences have been issued to retailers to sell graded milk in Gosforth as follows :—

To sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	5
,, ,, Accredited Milk	1
,, ,, Pasteurised Milk	7

(b) **Slaughter Houses, Retail Meat Shops and Food Stores.**

There are two private slaughter houses and 62 retail meat shops in the District. They are periodically inspected and it was found necessary to issue one notice during the year. The structural condition of the premises is fairly satisfactory.

Approximately 1670 sheep, 253 cattle and 98 calves were slaughtered in this area during the year.

The occupiers of the slaughter houses have regular times each week for slaughtering and inspections are made both at these and at other times.

Forty inspections were made at slaughter-houses during the year, and slaughtering was in progress during thirty-one of these inspections.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle (excluding Cows).	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs.
Number killed, if known	253	0	98	1,670	0
Number inspected	45 (including calves)	0	0	99	0
All Diseases except Tuberculosis—					
Whole carcases condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	0	0	0	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	2.2%	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis Only—					
Whole carcases condemned	1	0	0	0	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	0	0	0	0
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	4.4%	0	0	0	0

There is no meat marketing scheme in operation in this district.

(c) **Adulteration, etc., of Food.** This is controlled by the County Council.

(d) **Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.** Chemical examinations are carried out by the Public Analyst in Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Bacteriological Examinations at the County Laboratory at Newburn-on-Tyne.

(e) **Nutrition.** There has been no action taken with regard to this matter.

(f) **Shellfish (Molluscan).** There are no shellfish beds or layings in this district.

Offensive Trades.

The Offensive Trades established in the District are five fried fish purveyors. The premises and utensils have been kept in a fairly satisfactory state of cleanliness during the year. One which was structurally unsuitable was replaced by entirely new premises.

Two contraventions were found and these were remedied without the service of Informal Notices.

Houses let in Lodgings, Underground Sleeping Rooms, Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.

There are no houses let in lodgings or underground sleeping rooms in the district.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the district where rag flock is manufactured and only a very small quantity is used by one upholsterer, who buys the material from a wholesale dealer in Newcastle upon Tyne under a guarantee as to cleanliness. No tests have been made during the year.

HOUSING.

The total number of houses in the District is 6141 and of these about 2814 are of a type suitable for persons of the working classes. There were 37 unoccupied houses in the district at the end of the year.

Two hundred and seventeen houses were erected during the year by private builders.

1. **Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—**

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	360
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	360
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	31
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	31
(3)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	26
(4)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	334

2. **Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of formal Notices :—**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	280

3. **Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—**

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners 0

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners 0

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 5

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 0

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 0

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 0

E. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(1) (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 19

(b) Number of families dwelling therein 19

(c) Number of persons dwelling therein 160

(2) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 3

(3) (a) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 9

(b) Number of persons concerned in such cases 58

(4) No houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority have taken steps to abate previous overcrowding therein.

	Number of Inspections during year.	Number of Defects or Contraventions.	Number outstanding from previous year.	Total.	Number of defects or contraventions remedied after interview, letter or informal notice.	Number of STATUTORY Notices served.	Defects remedied thereafter.	In progress or being dealt with.	Legal Proceedings.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Housing — Structural defects	360	129	11	140	127	.....	.....	13	....
Housing — Defective Food-stores		6		6	6	.....	.....	.....	....
Housing — Dampness		40	11	51	49	.....	.....	2	....
Housing — Overcrowding		9	.....	9	9	.....	.....	.....	....
Housing — Other Nuisances, Defects, or Contraventions		103	8	111	101	.....	.....	10	....
Water Supply — Insufficient	.....	10	.....	10	10	.....	....	....	....
Water Supply — Unsatisfactory	14	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Drainage — Choked	51	18	....	18	18	.....	....	....	....
Drainage — Defective		14	3	17	17	.....	....	.....	....
Drainage — Insufficient		3	.....	3	3				
Yards Sanitary Conveniences and Dustbins — Insufficient	2,605	7	1	8	8	.....	....	.....	....
Yards Sanitary Conveniences and Dustbins — Foul		14	.....	14	14	.....	....	....	....
Yards Sanitary Conveniences and Dustbins — Defective		218	12	230	200	.....	.....	30	....
Shops, Food-stores, &c.	57	11	12	23	21	.....	....	2	....
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	41	7	1	8	7	....	....	1	....
Slaughter Houses	40	3	....	3	3	.....	....	....	....
Offensive Trades	7	2	.....	2	2	....	....	....	....
Workplaces and Factories	44	17	....	17	12	.....	....	5	....
Keeping of Animals	2	.....	....	.....	.....	....	....	....	....
Eradication of Bed Bugs	14	12	.....	12	12	....	....	....	....
Rats and Mice Destruction Act	21	5	1	6	5	....	....	1	....
Offensive accumulations	46	34	....	34	34	.....	....	....	....
Smoke Nuisances	5	4	....	4	3	....	....	1	....
Unclassified minor nuisances	20	15	3	18	17	.....	....	1	....
Total	3,327	681	63	744	678	.....	.....	66	....

TABLE II.

This table gives an abstract of some of the work carried out in connection with occupied dwelling houses.

Length in yards of defective drains removed	128
Length in yards of new drains constructed	332
Defective gullies removed	7
New trapped gullies provided	12
Combined privies and ashpits abolished and replaced by water closets	0
Pail closets abolished and replaced by water closets	0
New water closets provided	23
Ashpits removed and dust bins provided	4
Number of houses at which drains have been tested	29
Number of tests made	42
New ashbins provided	137

TABLE III.

The work in connection with the drains of new buildings will be found in the following table :—

Number of buildings at which drains have been tested	257
Number of tests made	449
Length in yards of drains tested	3647

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

THOS. B. BENNETT, C.R.S.I.,
Sanitary Inspector.